THE ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2003

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : Madam, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

The Question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Madam, I introduce the Bill.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now. Mr. N.K. Premachandran; you wanted to say something.

MATTERS RAISED WITH THE PERMISSION OF CHAIR

Police atrocities against Adivasi/Tribal People at Muthanya, Kerala

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN (Kerala): Madam, I would like to raise a very serious matter regarding the Police atrocities on Adivasi/Tribal people at Muthanya in Wayanad District of Kerala.

Madam, on 19.02.2003. the Police opened firing on Adivasi/Tribal people as a .result of which one Adivas! was killed and hundreds injured, and 130 tribal people including women and children are reported missing.

Madam, the National Commission on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has visited the place and have conducted an inquiry, and recommended that a Magisterial inquiry be conducted by the State Government. But, it is quite unfortunate to note that the State Government has so far not ordered for any judicial inquiry, or, a magisterial inquiry. Madam, a strong agitation is going on throughout the Kerala State. Four MLAs are on. indefinite hunger strike for the last six days but so far no action has been taken by the Government of Kerala. I have raised the matter in the House on 21.02.2003, but no response has come from the Government of India, especially, from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.